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Expedited Procedure
Examining Group 2133

AF 12700
#108/4-2004
A.F. / u Joy

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application: John E. Archibald Jr et al :	Group Art Unit: 2133
Serial No.: 09/872,386	Examiner: Joseph D. Torres
Filed: 06/01/2001	IBM Corporation
Title: Storage Media Scanner Apparatus and	Intellectual Property Law
Method of Providing Media Predictive	Department IQ0A/040-3
Failure Analysis and Proactive Media	1701 North Street
Surface Defect Management	Endicott, NY 13760

Assistant Commissioner For Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner For Patents, P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA. 22313, on 4-8-04

Georgia A. Brundage 4-8-04
Georgia A. Brundage Date

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

In response to the Final Office Action dated 02/09/2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

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APR 15 2004

Technology Center 2100

IN THE CLAIMS:

(Previously cancelled) Claim 1.

2.(Previously amended) A method for testing a data storage medium for defects, the method comprising the steps of:

determining whether a region on said storage medium contains user data, and if so, copying said user data from said region to a temporary storage location;

after the copying step, attempting to write a data pattern to said region of the storage medium, and then reading back contents of said region;

SJO9-2000-0075US1

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